

November 14, 2001

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE TORRANCE CABLE TELEVISION ADVISORY BOARD.

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

The Torrance Cable Television Advisory Board convened in a regular meeting on Wednesday, November 14, 2001, at 7:27 p.m. in the Torrance Community Television studio located in the Telecommunications Center.

2. ROLL CALL:

Present: Commissioners: Cahill, Haussmann, Mikulicich, Jr., Perkins, Chair Craft

Also Present: Michael Smith, Cable Television Administrator
Jesse Foreman, Coordinator
Cindy Hibbard, Temporary Secretary

Excused: Stadler and Tsao

3. FLAG SALUTE:

Commissioner Mikulicich, Jr. led the salute to the flag.

4. MOTION TO ACCEPT AND FILE REPORT ON POSTING OF AGENDA:

MOTION: *Commissioner Haussmann moved to accept and file the report of the City Clerk on posting of the agenda for this meeting. This motion, seconded by Commissioner Perkins, carried with an aye vote.*

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION: *Commissioner Mikulicich, Jr. moved to approve the minutes for the October 10, 2001 meeting. This motion seconded by Commissioner Cahill, carried with an aye vote.*

6. SCHEDULED BUSINESS:

a) Community Matters – NONE

b) Committee Reports

(1) Producer Incentive – NONE

(2) Franchise Renewal – NONE

(3) Operating Policies and Procedures

Committee Chair Mikulicich, Jr. discussed the proposed modifications and described the discussions that led up to the recommendation that is in Item E1.

Brief discussion followed.

MOTION: *Commissioner Mikulicich, Jr. moved to accept the Operating Policies and Procedures Report. This motion, seconded by Commissioner Cahill, carried with an aye vote.*

(4) Open Mic Night

Committee Chair Haussmann discussed confirmation of 100% participation by the School Board candidates and opponents and proponents of Measure Q. She also confirmed the cablecast schedule that began on October 10th through November 5th at 7:00 and 7:30 p.m.

Brief discussion followed.

MOTION: *Commissioner Perkins moved to accept the Open Mic Night Report. This motion, seconded by Commissioner Cahill, carried with an aye vote.*

(5) Video Programming Awards

Administrator Smith announced the awards ceremony has been moved from February 1st to March 15th due to a conflict of community events. He also discussed progress is being made in locating past recipients of the "Stanley Award".

Brief discussion followed.

MOTION: *Commissioner Cahill moved to accept the Video Programming Awards Report. This motion, seconded by Commissioner Perkins, carried with an aye vote.*

(6) Future of Access - NONE

c) Report of Community Television Center - October, 2001

Coordinator Foreman discussed the statistics for the month of October. He highlighted the six programs completed for the month. There was also one tour of the facility provide to a Boy Scout Troop.

Brief discussion followed.

MOTION: *Commissioner Haussmann moved to accept the Torrance Community Television Center Report for October 2001. This motion, seconded by Commissioner Mikulicich, Jr. carried with an aye vote.*

d) Report of Legislative and Cable Related Activities – October, 2001

Administrator Smith gave a brief summary of the report. He highlighted the cable industry's average rate increase beginning in January will be above 5%. He also mentioned EchoStar's purchase of DirecTV. In addition, he discussed a group of Texas cities attempt to have the federal court reverse a FCC decision that allows cable operators' to collect franchise fees from subscribers. The main issue is the concept of considering franchise fees a "pass-through".

Brief discussion followed.

MOTION: *Commissioner Perkins moved to accept the Legislative and Cable Related Activities Report for October 2001. This motion, seconded by Commissioner Mikulicich, Jr., carried with an aye vote.*

e) Old Business

- 1) Recommendation from the Operating Policies and Procedures Committee and Cable Television Administrator to amend of TCTV Operating Polices and Procedures Section III, D. 1. TRAINING REQUIREMENT WAIVER by adding, "New Certifications and Recertifications will require a refundable deposit consistent with Workshops.**

Committee Chair Mikulicich, Jr. provided a brief introduction of the item, which included his withdrawal of support for the committee recommendation based on discussions with Commission on the Committee report and Producers.

Cable Television Administrator Smith urged the Commission to consider the purpose of the certification period was to encourage productivity once Users became trained Producers. The minimum certification requirement is producing one program a year. The waiver exam was designed to help new Users that had previous experience to quickly become Producers. The exams were not intended to allow Producers to maintain use of the facility without submitting one program for cablecasting each year.

The Commission discussed this matter at length. They expressed concerns about the fee for recertification might possibly discourage participation. They requested that the Committee consider: 1) notifying Producer's in advance when their certification will expire, 2) advise them that a short PSA would satisfy the one program requirement, 3) limit use of exams in succession, and 4) not to require a deposit.

MOTION: *Commissioner Perkins moved to return item to the Committee to further develop the waiver exam process. This motion seconded by Commissioner Mikulicich, Jr., carried with an aye vote.*

f) New Business

- 1) Recommendation from the Operating Policies and Procedures Committee and Cable Television Administrator to amend of TCTV Operating Polices**

and Procedures Section III, D. 2. CERTIFICATION RENEWAL from six months to twelve months.

In consideration of Item E1, this item was held.

MOTION: *Commissioner Mikulicich, Jr. moved to hold this item until the Waiver Exam issue returns for consideration. This motion seconded by Commissioner Perkins, carried with an aye vote.*

g) Addendum Matters – None

7. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

- a) Administrator Smith announced that CitiCABLE had won four awards at the Alliance for Community Media Far West Region Awards competition, call the “Western Access Video Excellence” (WAVE). This Week in Torrance won for best Community News; Teen Talk won for best Programming by Youth and best Talk Show/Entertainment; Senior Scene for best Programming by/for Seniors.
- b) Administrator Smith wished everyone a happy Thanksgiving.
- c) Coordinator Foreman also wished everyone a happy Thanksgiving.
- d) Cindy Hibbard wished also everyone a happy Thanksgiving.
- e) Commissioner Cahill also wished everyone a happy Thanksgiving.
- f) Commissioner Haussmann also wished everyone a happy Thanksgiving.
- g) Commissioner Mikulicich, Jr. wished everyone a happy Hanukkah.
- h) Chair Craft wished everyone a happy holiday.

8. ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Craft adjourned the meeting at 9:10 p.m. to reconvene on Wednesday, December 12, 2001 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael D. Smith
Cable Television Administrator

Roll Call: Cahill ☐ Haussmann ☐ Mikulicich, Jr. ☐ Perkins ☐ Stadler ☐ Tsao ☐ Craft ☐